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HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1960.

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OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

K.M. HARDING, M.D., D.P.H., A.K.C.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

H. SPINDLER, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

D.W.J. BARKER, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

H. YOUNG, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B. (As from 25th January, 1960).

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Water Supplies and Sewerage Committee -	Council's water and sewerage undertakings.
Housing Committee - - - - -	Improvement of housing amenities under Housing Acts. Provision of housing accommodation by the Council and also private enterprise.
Public Health Committee - - - -	Refuse collection, rodent control and all other public health functions.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hartismere Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1960.

There has been an increase in the Birth Rate and its present figure 18.23 is the highest for the past 6 years.

There has been a slight rise in the Death Rate. Under the heading "Causes of Death" it is interesting to note that there have been no deaths from Leukaemia and Aleukaemia for the past 3 years and and no deaths from Cancer of the uterus for the past 2 years. Deaths from Cancer of the lung have increased during the past 3 years from 3 to 8; and 13 people died from Bronchitis in 1960.

There is no doubt that heavy smoking has been clearly established as one of the causes of both Cancer of the lung and Bronchitis, and in the population of the country as a whole Lung Cancer is now one of the major causes of death. Most of the victims are middle aged and they die at a time when their family responsibilities are particularly heavy. Whilst it is vitally important for young people not to get into the habit of heavy smoking, it is equally important for older people to cut down on their smoking. It is just as important in fact as it is for them to take care in crossing the road.

Chronic Bronchitis is less dramatic and it kills people more slowly. They suffer a prolonged period of ill health before they die and this is not a happy ending. Young people will continue to take up smoking as long as they can regard it as a sign of being grown up. A kind of vicious circle is thus set up - older people refusing to cut down on their smoking because they think it is too late anyway, and young people taking it up because they feel it is a sign of maturity. The responsibility rests fairly and squarely on the older people. They owe a duty to themselves and their families, and they have also to set a good example to the young. Whether they have the strength to resist all the propoganda of the tobacco advertisements remains to be seen.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

K.M. HARDING,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1961.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	96,486 acres.
Population	16,930.
No. of inhabited houses	6,054.
Rateable Value	£113,227.
Product of Penny Rate	£448. 19s. 6d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	130	127	257
Illegitimate	4	5	9
Total	134	132	266

Birth Rate.

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	15.71
Comparability factor	1.16
Standardised birth rate	18.23
Birth rate England and Wales	17.1

Still Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	1	4	5
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	1	5	6

Still Birth Rate.

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	22.06
Still birth rate England and Wales	19.7

Infant Mortality (Deaths of children under 1 year).

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	4	-	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	5	-	5

Infant Mortality Rate.

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18.80
Infant Mortality rate England and Wales	21.7

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	4	-	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	5	-	5

Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Total.
All causes	118	72	190

Crude death rate per 1,000 population	11.22
Comparability factor	0.87
Standardised death rate	9.76
Death rate England and Wales	11.5

The Registrar General has continued to supply a comparability factor, 0.87, by which the Crude Death Rate must be adjusted for comparison with other areas of the country. As this factor is less than unity, the Standardised, or corrected Death Rate is less than the Crude Death Rate. This indicates that Hartismere has a greater "weighting" of elderly persons than the average for the rest of the country.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total 1960.	Total 1959.
Tuberculosis - respiratory	1	-	1	1
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	4	1	5	5
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	7	1	8	5
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	3	3	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	5	21	20
Diabetes	-	1	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	17	29	26
Coronary disease, angina	25	10	35	30
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-	2
Other heart diseases	16	13	29	20
Other circulatory diseases	2	5	7	12
Pneumonia	5	3	8	6
Bronchitis	9	4	13	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4	2
Congenital malformations	-	-	-	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	8	4	12	11
Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2	4
All other accidents	2	2	4	7
Suicide	1	1	2	3
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	1
	118	72	190	170

Cancer.

There were 37 deaths from Cancer in 1960 compared with 34 in 1959.

Vital Statistics - Summary for past 5 years.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	England & Wales 1960
Population.	16,950	16,940	16,950	16,960	16,930	
Live Births.	249	258	247	245	266	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population.	14.7	15.2	14.57	14.45	15.71	
Standardised Birth Rate	17.2	17.6	16.90	16.76	18.23	17.1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	7	1	7	4	5	
Infant Mortality Rate	28.1	3.88	28.34	16.33	18.80	21.7
Deaths	208	160	173	170	190	
Crude Death Rate	12.27	9.45	10.21	10.02	11.22	
Standardised Death Rate	10.67	8.22	8.88	8.72	9.76	11.5

Monthly Notification of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis).

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	10	2	1	2	-	2	3	1	21
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	13	3	13	38
Dysentery	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	11
Pneumonia	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
Salmonella	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total	-	2	4	5	11	5	2	13	9	15	7	15	88

Notifiable Diseases - Age Distribution.

	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Total.
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Whooping Cough	1	3	3	11	1	-	-	2	-	21
Measles	1	5	8	21	3	-	-	-	-	38
Dysentery	-	3	-	3	1	2	1	1	-	11
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2	6
Salmonella	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Total	4	11	11	37	6	7	2	7	3	88

Notifiable Diseases -- Summary for Past 5 years.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Scarlet Fever	5	4	7	52	3
Whooping Cough	49	44	-	10	21
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	80	187	217	99	38
Pneumonia	3	4	6	16	6
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	2	-	1	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	22	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	1	1	2
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	5	1
Erysipelas	-	-	1	4	2
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	1
Salmonella Typhi-murium	-	-	2	-	3

4. VACCINATIONS AND IMUUNISATIONS. (Figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer.)

(a) Vaccinations against Smallpox.

Primary	204
Re-vaccination	12

(b) Immunisations.

(i) Primary.

Diphtheria	36
Whooping Cough	8
Tetanus	10
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	24
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus	45
	123

(ii) Boosters.

Diphtheria and Diphtheria/Tetanus	130

No separate figures for this district are available for Poliomyelitis vaccinations.

5. TUBERCULOSIS.

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	
Cases on register at 1.1.60.	35	12	23	10	80
Primary Notifications	3	2	1	1	7
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
Total	38	14	24	11	87
Cases taken off register in 1960.					
Deaths	2	-	1	-	3
Recovered	3	1	-	1	5
Removed from District	1	-	1	-	2
Re-diagnosed Non T.B.	-	-	-	-	-
Total removed	6	1	2	1	10
No. of cases remaining on register at 31.12.60.	32	13	22	10	77

Tuberculosis - Statistical Summary for Past 5 Years.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number added to Register by Primary Notification -					
(a) Pulmonary	5	2	7	-	4
(b) Non-Pulmonary	1	2	1	1	3
Total number added to Register	6	11	16	4	7

6. WATER SUPPLY.

Connections.

130 connections to properties were made during the year. Of these 39 were metered supplies.

There are now 930 metered supplies in the district (up to 31st December, 1960).

Water Examination.

Well water	- -	4 samples were taken - 3 were found to be satisfactory and 1 unsatisfactory.
Mains Supply.	- -	12 routine samples were taken in different parishes and a further 12 taken at source (Redgrave Headworks). All reports showed the findings to be excellent.

Well Water Cyanosis.

During the year 19 samples were taken - 14 of these were found to be safe and 5 unsafe (the reports on 4 of these were termed as doubtful). The families concerned in the unsafe cases were warned and advised to obtain an alternative supply.

7. SEWERAGE.

Hoxne.

The sewer was completed in March, 1960. Connections to the sewer have been made by 12 more private houses, 11 pre-war and 20 post war Council houses.

Botesdale and Rickinghall.

This village scheme was in course of construction during the year, 95% of the scheme being completed by 31st December, 1960.

Wetheringsett.

A Council house drainage scheme for 25 houses was completed in this village.

Occold.

A Council house drainage scheme for 14 houses was completed.

8. HOUSING.

The erection of 4 Old Persons Bungalows and 4 houses was completed by the Council.

9. MILK DEALERS LICENCES.

Pasteurised Milk	-	18 licences issued.
Tuberculin Tested Milk	-	16 licences issued.
Sterilised Milk		2 licences issued.

10. MILK SAMPLING.

No. of samples taken by East Suffolk County Council - 50.
No. containing Tuberculosis organisms - nil.
No. containing Brucella organisms - 1.

11. FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year the number of licensed slaughterhouses was reduced to one, this continued operations. 108 cattle and 14 pigs were killed and 100% inspection of carcases was carried out. No carcases were condemned during the year, which indicates the first class quality of meat handled.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year:-

74 lbs. fruit salad.
13 lbs. tinned ham.
29 lbs. liver.

12. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

No action was taken under this Act.

13. FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Number of factories with mechanical power -	53.
Number of factories without mechanical power -	1.
Other premises - building sites etc. -	26.
Number of inspections made -	60.
Number of defects found -	8.
Number of defects remedied -	8.